

RUSSIAN PROVEB CORPORA OF THE 18TH CENTURY: VARIATION PROBLEM

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ABSTRACT

The article is dedicated to the results of comprehensive analysis of the variation problem in Russian proverb and saying corpora of the 18th century, first and foremost, in the collected proverbs of the former Petrovskaya gallery dated to the first quarter of the 18th century. The problem of variation has been considered at various levels (word form, word, proverb level).

The article describes the reflection principles of entry unit variants in «The Dictionary of the Russian Proverbs and Sayings at the turn of the 17th – 18th Centuries» that has been compiled by the authors on the basis of Kazan university computer corpus of the Russian proverbs and sayings. The dictionary has been presented in two forms: paper books and Internet entry located at the site «Kazan federal university linguographic corpora» (<http://klf.kpfu.ru>). In the dictionary the variants are reflected not only in the basic part – concordance, but in inverse and frequency wordlists. In both dictionary versions special consideration is given to the principles of presentation of reference articles that make it possible to preserve all the reflected lexeme variants in the collected texts.

Quantitative features are represented in the article: distribution of entry units that have part of speech variants and other quantitative data. We have applied comparative analysis on the basis of data of the principal historical dictionaries of the Russian language, primarily «the Dictionary of the Russian Language of the 18th Century», and a number of variants not stated in lexicographic sources have been analyzed.

The present study allows to draw a conclusion on high historic-lexicographic significance of collected Russian proverbs of the 18th century.

Key words: corpus linguistics, proverbs and sayings, dictionary, variant, lemma, concordance

1. INTRODUCTION

Corpus linguistics is at present one of the most developing field of applied linguistics. One of the most well-known Russian projects of this school – National corpora of the Russian language – represents inquiry and communications system based on collected Russian texts of 500 million words long by electronic means. Besides the common corpus, the special corpora have been developed which target at the texts of a certain time period, region and genre [1, 2, 3, 4, 5].

The example of this kind of corpora is the Russian proverbs and sayings corpora of the 18th century developed at Applied Linguistics chair of Kazan Federal University. The acute problem of the corpora is in the problem of variation that is represented at various levels: word forms, words, proverbs.

2. VARIATION OF PROVERBS AND SAYINGS

In collected proverbs of the 18th century we encounter the variants of paroimic units with substitution, metaplasm, individual words disambiguation, for example, in the collected proverbs of Petrovskaya Gallery: *Без притчи века не изживешь / Без притчи веку не изживешь; Добро тово учить, кто слушает / Хорошо тово учить, кто слушает; Язык голову кормит, он же и до смерти [дovодит] / Езык голову кормит; Жаль кулака, да бить дурака / Хотя жаль кулака, а бить дурака* and other examples.

The problem of variation of proverbs and sayings is more actual when compiling paroimic dictionaries [6, 7], as in this case, it is essential to choose how to present paroimia variations: either to combine them or to represent each unit in. Variation can be found within one collection as well as in different collections and published works.

This factor determines a way of presentation of materials of various published works of collected proverbs. Thus, for example, one of the principal source of dictionary-text corpora of Russian proverbs and sayings of the 18th century is «The Collection of 4291 Ancient Russian Proverbs». Three published works from this Collection are known: the first two published works - dated to the year 1770. (the date of re-editing of the second work is not pointed out), the third one is dated to the year 1787. The authors of the three published works are not known, but in bibliographic reference books there, as a rule, the name Anton Alekseyevich Barsov (1730 – 1791), the Russian scholar-linguist, philosopher, translator, and public figure, professor of Moscow University is indicated as a compiler. The second edition contains a list of errors at the back of the book. Unfortunately, it is not known the name of an author from this list. But the comparative analysis has revealed that these correction data in the third Collection are not taken into account, besides evident misprints, that allows to come to conclusion on the fact that the third edition was reprinted from the first one not from the second.

Collections in manuscripts dated to 17th-18th centuries had been edited time and again:

1) In the year 1880 the collection «Manuscript Collection of the 17th-18th centuries» in the fourth edition «To Monuments of the Ancient Script» was published; in 1899 this collection under the title «Manuscript Collected Proverbs, Sayings of the Petrovsky century (17th-18th centuries)» was edited by P.K. Simony in 66th volume of the Collection belonging to the department of the Russian language and literature of the Emperor Academy of Sciences.

2) The collected proverbs by V.N. Tatishchev were published in three versions. In 1961 it was prepared two collections for edition, independently. G.G. Shapovalova edited the collected proverbs in the book «Proverbs, Sayings, Riddles in Manuscript Collections of the 17th-18th centuries», and F.M. Golovenchenko – in Proceedings of Moscow State Pedagogical Institute. In 2000 the edition by F.M. Golovenchenko was republished in the collection of his selected works «Russian Philology». In the year 2004 in Perm the book titled «Many words hurt more than swords: proverbs and sayings of the Russian people, collected by V.N. Tatishchev» was published by the advertising agency «Style-MG» in «From the works by V.N. Tatishchev».

The more detailed description of the Russian proverbs and sayings of the 18th century is presented in [8, 9].

When compiling the language dictionary of proverbs and sayings it becomes more important the problem of variation of words, lexical units, as in lemmatization for every word form fixed in text of the analyzed collection it is essential to restructure initial word form.

3. VARIATION OF ENTRY UNITS OF THE DICTIONARY

In this article we analyze different aspects of the problem of variation on the material of «The Language Dictionary of the Russian Proverbs and Sayings of the 17th century end – first half of the 18th century» [10]–paraimographic description of the Collected proverbs of the former Petrovskaya gallery (hereinafter – CPG), dated to the first quarter of the 18th century.

The main part of the Dictionary is **concordance** which presents alphabetical (rather – alphabetical - frequency) word index with contexts and references and reflects all the cases of using all words (appellative and onim) in CPG. The reference book contains all the elements of the context, alphabetical family, word change category, explanatory, comparative, historical, frequency dictionary, as well as the dictionary of variants and in proper names. Concordance includes 1933 basic articles that contain several information areas.

The entry unit of the Dictionary is a lemma, a word in its initial (dictionary) form. In printed version of the dictionary the entry unit is given as:

a) capital letters, if a word is found in CPG in its initial form and in the form similar to the initial, for example:

КОТЕЛ ← **КОТЕЛ**: *Без ума голова котел* #2:22 ▲ C18: К. <3>

СЛУЖБА ← **СЛУЖБА**: *Красная нужда – дворянская служба* #10:13 ▲ C17: С. ... <17>

б) small letters, if an initial form is represented, for example:

дружба ← **ДРУЖБЕ**: *Шут в дружбе неверен* #25:11 ▲ C18: Д.

кровля ← **КРОВЛЮ**: *Чужую кровлю кровшь, а своя каплет* #24:29 ▲ C18: К. <3>

If the variants as basic lemma are available the variant corresponding, as a rule, to contemporary word spelling is chosen. In C 18[11] such variation is called strong and lemma is a form-representative for a number of variants.

Variations of entry unit are represented after the entry unit, their marker is a forward slash (/) before, and half-dark Roman type, for example:

княгиня / **КНЯИНЯ** (2) ← **КНЯИНЕ**: *Княине дитя, кошке котя – таково ж дитя* #10:11 Δ **КНЯИНЯ**: *Князю княиня, боярину Марина, а всякому своя Катерина* #10:9 ▲ C18: К. / К. ... <2>

When highlighting the entry units we based on the data of the basic historical dictionaries («The Dictionary of the Russian language the 18th century», «The Dictionary of the Russian language the 11th – 17th centuries») and extra lexicographical sources («The Dictionary of the Russian Academy», «Explanatory Dictionary of the Vivid Great Russian Language» by V.I. Dahl and others.). «The Dictionary of the Russian language the 18th century» registers the word and its variants. A variant is understood by the compilers as «modification of the word form при with semantics identity (lexical and grammatical)» [11].

Lemma variants that are excluded from contemporary language are represented if :

a) they are found in the text in the initial form and in the form similar to initial, for example:

бабий / **БАБЕЙ** (2) ← **БАБЕЙ**: *Бабей огород недолго летен* #2:20 Δ **БАБЬИ**: *Басни бабьи а дурак то любит* #2:19 ▲ C18: Б. / Б. (ст. баба¹)

больно / **БОЛНО** (2) ← **БОЛНО**: *Что совою опечь, что пчью осову–всей болно* #24:15 Δ **БОЛЬНО**: *И голка маленька, да больно уколет* #9:21 ▲ C18: Б. <3>

б) they were restored on the basis of word forms represented in CPG when variations are represented on the word basis, for example:

калачник / **калашник** ← **КАЛАШНИКА**: *У калашника дрождей не укупишь* #19:2 ▲ C18: К. / К. ...

корабль / **карабль** ← **КАРАБЛЯМ**: *Потоп караблям, песок жеравлям* #15:56 ▲ C18: К. / К.

Here it should be noted that in cases when the modern standard form of a word is not reflected in sources C18, it is put into the dictionary corpus (in broken brackets) and then it is referred to actual fixed variant, for example: <АЛЛО>, here Ало.

One of the principal elements of the dictionary articles of our dictionary is reference information area, where (together with the other data) the other variants of entry units are given. As a rule, the references of the variants presented only in the analyzed text are given, for example:

сбойство / **ЗБОЙСТВО** ← **ЗБОЙСТВО**: *Женское збойство и на свинье не объехать* #7:20 ▲ C17: С. / З.

If the variants that are not found in CPG are presented in the source, usually they are not found in reference area as well, and their availability in the source is marked by three dots, for example:

ЗНАТЬСЯ ← **ЗНАТЬСЯ**: *Знаться с кумою – рстаться с женою* #8:39 ▲ C18: З. ... <2>

If in the source the variant not reflected in CPG is placed as the first one then it is the first to be represented then that one represented in CPG, for example:

ВЕТЮТИН ← **ВЕТЮТИН**: *Что ветютин – ни очей, ниречей* #24:9 ▲ C18: **ветютень** / В. ... 'дикий голубь'

In concordance not only the principal dictionary articles are presented but reference ones as well, including 191 references of variants of entry units, for example:

куды = **куда**

লেখко = **легко**

Variant references the difference of which is only the final part are not given as in overwhelming majority of cases, in the dictionary they are placed alongside, for example:

a) verbs ending in "-ти" instead of "-ть"; "-чи" instead of "-чь"; "-тца" instead of "-ться", for example:

ЗНАТЬ / ЗНАТИ<...>

зажечь / ЗАЖЕЧИ<...>

жениться / ЖЕНИЦА<...>

б) adjectives ending in "-ой" instead "-ый" or "-ий"; "-ей" instead "-ий", for example:

богатый / БОГАТОЙ<...>

всякий / ВСЯКОЙ<...>

девичий / ДЕВИЧЕЙ<...>

This approach is adhered by the compilers of C18: «Reference article are not given for the variants of the following regular types: morphological variants — adjective inflexion in

-ый / -ой, infinitive -ть / -ти, -му / -ть, inflexion of collective nouns and action nouns in

-ье / -ие, -ья / -ия; orthographic variants — not unvoiced consonants in prefixes *из-, во-, раз-, низ-, без-, через-* before unvoiced consonants » [11].

More detailed description of micro- and macro structure of paper dictionary version is presented in [10]. The internet-version located at the site «Kazan Lingua graphic Fund» of the Kazan Federal University portal (<http://klf.kpfu.ru>) is regarded as basic and perspective, as it allows to make changes and supplements into the dictionary efficiently. The importance of the internet-dictionaries has been noted by the scholars more then once [12, 13].

In the version of the internet-dictionaries there are slight distinctions from the paper version. The dictionary articles are represented in the form of the table that is divided into the following columns:

- 1) Running number,
- 2) lexical form,
- 3) text form,
- 4) variants of an entry unit,
- 5) reference area,
- 6) isonyms,
- 7) frequency (for lexical and text forms),
- 8) number of characters,
- 9) number of letters.

Presentation of entry units in the internet –version is rather different from the paper version of the dictionary. So, in the column «Lexical form» the variant of the entry unit that is congenial to the Russian language of the studied period is presented. The rest variants are put into column №4.

The developed system of reference dictionaries of internet-version articles allows to find this or that lexical unit by its contemporary orthographic aspect. Thus, for example, on request **кукушка** reference retrieval system will not identify the searched results in the corpus of the main articles but on pressing «Retrieved in reference articles» the user will see the reference article on the display in a new panel:

кукушка = **кокушка**

The lemma **кокушка** is an active hyperlink, on pressing which the substantive dictionary article with contextual use of the lexeme will be displayed to the user: *Ночная кокушка денную перекокует и Вы менял кокушку на ястребца.* Thus, applying this reference retrieval system with variants, we solve two problems: 1) to the most preserve the orthographic and grammatical features of an original text, 2) give an opportunity to a reader to use variants fixed in the texts dated to 18th century instead of a contemporary (usual for him) variant.

In the dictionary the variation of the entry units can be found not only in concordance but in the other parts of the dictionary:

1) In **inverse word index** the words having variants are marked by slashes; the number of these slashes corresponds to the number of variants. Variants are marked with a sign of equality (=). The words with asterisk indicate the words that can be found in CPG in the initial form or the form similar to the initial one (for example, the form of the accusative case is for a part of nouns). The fragment of an inverse index:

= мяхкий
худенький
// маленький
беленький
/ голенький

2) In **frequency** (to be more precise – frequency-alphabetical) **word index** the variants of lemmas are represented after forward slash. Here is the following fragment:

ли / ль (14)
слово (14)
старый / старой (14)
богатый / богатой (13)
жена (13)

4. TYPES OF VARIANTS

In individual cases the variants that are standard also in contemporary Russian and stated in explanatory dictionaries are registered in the Collection, for example: **БЫ / Б, В / ВО, ДАЛЕКО / ДАЛЕЧЕ, ЖЕ / Ж, ЛИ / ЛЬ, О / ОБ, С / СО.**

In most cases these variants are absent in contemporary dictionaries and their emerging in the texts of collections is determined by living phonetic processes that relate to positional and combinatorial sound changes. In variants that are present in texts of the Collection the strings with the following alternants are there:

а / о: алтарь / олтарь, батька / батько, даровой / доровой, доплатить / доплотить, дубрава / ДУБРОВА, карета / корета, палата / ПОЛАТА, раздуться / роздуться, разинуть / розинуть, размышлять / розмышлять, разойтись / розойтись, разорваться / розорваться, расправа / росправа, расстаться / РОСТАТЬСЯ, расступиться / роступиться, растерять / ростерять, расти / рости, расход / РОСХОД, скачок / СКОЧОК, сравнять / сровнять

г / х: легко / ЛЕХКО, мяхкий / мяхкий, мяко / МЯХКО

д / о: СЕРДЦЕ / СЕРЦЕ

д / т: БУДТО / БУТТО, водка / вотка, догадка / догатка, дядька / ДЯТКА, идти / ИТТИ, лодка / лотка, находка / нахотка, погудка / ПОГУТКА, походка / ПОХОТКА, редька / РЕТЬКА, Федька / ФЕТКА, ягодка / яготка, тетрадь / тетрать, тд женитьба / ЖЕНИДЬБА

ж / ш: бумажка / бумажка, денежка / ДЕНЕШКА, ложка / лошка, ярыжка / ярышка, гуш / ГУШ, же / Ж / ШЬ.
з / с: везти / ВЕСТЬ, глаз / ГЛАС, гузка / ГУСКА, ИЗ / ИС, лезть / ЛЕСТЬ, сказка / СКАСКА, слезка / слеска
и / ы: игрушка / ыгушка, ИГУМЕН / ыгумен, избыток / ызыток, скрипка / скрыпка, скрипучий / скрыпачий
кх: К / Х, КРЕСТЬЯНИН / ХРЕСТЬЯНИН, КТО / ХТО, никто / НИХТО
о / а: аромат / арапат, корабль / карабль, ночевать / НАЧЕВАТЬ, рождать / раждать, скомороший / скамароший, собака / САБАКА

с / з: С / З, сбой / ЗБОЙ, сбойство / ЗБОЙСТВО, сбоку / ЗБОКУ, сглупать / зглупать, сгодиться / згодиться, сгореть / згореть, сделать / зделать

сч / щ: счастливый / ЩАСТЛИВОЙ, счет / ЩОТ, считаться / щитаться

т / 0: свистнуть / свиснуть, стлать / СЛАТЬ, хвастливый / хвасливый

тца / ться: волочиться / ВОЛОЧИТЦА, жениться / ЖЕНИТЦА, зазреться / ЗАЗРЕТЦА, лениться / ЛЕНИТЦА, мучиться / МУЧИТЦА, набраться / НАБРАТЦА, находиться / НАХОДИТЦА, одеться / ОДЕТЦА, поводить / ПОВОДИТЦА, подражаться / ПОДРАТЦА, садиться / САДИТЦА, стыдиться / СТЫДИТЦА, тешиться / ТЕШИТЦА, удержаться / УДЕРЖАТЦА, укрыться / УКРЫТЦА, учиться / УЧИТЦА

ть / ти: ЗНАТЬ / ЗНАТИ, ИМЕТЬ / ИМЕТИ, плескать / ПЛЕСКАТИ, поймать / ПОИМАТИ, собирать / СОБИРАТИ, спать / СПАТИ, терпеть / ТЕРПЕТИ

у / ю: ничуть / НИЧЮТЬ, чужой / чюжой, чують / чюять

ч / ш: встречник / встрешник, калачник / калашник, непрочный / непрощный, ЧТО / ШТО, яблочный / яблосный
чь / чи: зажечь / ЗАЖЕЧИ

ь // 0: батька / батько / батко, больно / БОЛНО, больной / болной, горький / горкий, горько / ГОРКО, денга / ДЕНГА, деньги / ДЕНГИ, довольно / ДОВОЛНО, дядька / ДЯТКА, маленький / МАЛЕНЬКОЙ / маленький, неприятельский / неприятелский, ПЛЕШЬ / ПЛЕШ, польза / полза, похвальба / ПОХВАЛБА, сильный / силный, стрельба / СТРЕЛБА, тюрьма / ТЮРМА, Федька / ФЕТКА, цельба / ЦЕЛБА. В некоторых случаях такое графическое чередование передает твердость / мягкость согласного.

э / е: эдакий / ЕДАКОЙ, этот / етот

There do not appear to be sufficient reasons for highlighting ending variants of adjectives in detached group:

ий / ей: бабий / БАБЕЙ, вдовый / ВДОВЕЙ, волчий / ВОЛЧЕЙ, девичий / ДЕВИЧЕЙ, исподний / ИСПОДНЕЙ, коровий / КОРОВЕЙ, лисий / ЛИСЕЙ, передний / ПЕРЕДНЕЙ, рыбий / РЫБЕЙ, середний / СЕРЕДНЕЙ, соболий / СОБОЛЕЙ, хороший / ХОРОШЕЙ

ий / ой: всякий / ВСЯКОЙ, голенький / ГОЛЕНЬКОЙ, земский / ЗЕМСКОЙ, маленький / МАЛЕНЬКОЙ, озерский / ОЗЕРСКОЙ, эдакий / ЕДАКОЙ

Some cases of morphological variants such as related to gender feature of the noun are noted: берлога / берлог, кроха / КРОХ, ужин / УЖИНА.

A number of variants stated in the collected proverbs are absent in «The Dictionary of the Russian Language of the 18th century» (in the list they are highlighted by half-dark type, in brackets there the similar units to be compared with are stated, in C18): *арамат* / **арамат** (compare: *корабль* / **карабль**, *ночевать* / **начевать**); *больно* / **болно**, *больной* / **болной**, *довольно* / **доволно** (compare: *горький* / **горкий**, *горько* / **горко**, *денга* / **денга**, *деньги* / **денги**); *гуш* / **гуш**, *денежка* / **денешка** (compare: *ложка* / **лошка**); *даровой* / **доровой**, *доплатить* / **доплотить** (compare: *алтарь* / **олтарь**, *дубрава* / **дуброва**, *каре́та* / **корета**); *зажечь* / **зажечи** (*знать* / **знати**, *иметь* / **имети**); *лодка* / **лотка** (ср.: *будто* / **бутто**, *водка* / **вотка**, *догадка* / **догатка**, *находка* / **нахотка**); *ноготь* / **ногодь** (*женитьба* / **женидьба**) and some other examples.

In compiling language dictionaries of proverbs and sayings solid and separate spelling of some lexical units cause the most difficulties as it has effects on highlighting the units and their linguo graphic description.

In the texts of the studied collections the variation at word form level is also noted. For example, the word forms ЛЮДЕМ and ЛЮДЯМ are dative forms of the noun ЛЮДИ. In our case such cases are not combined within dictionary article, each form is defined individually in its alphabetical place among the word forms:

ЛЮДИ (21) ← **ЛЮДЕЙ** (4): *Али я хуже **людей**, что везде стоя пью* #1:17 • *Жить тихо, да от **людей** тихо* #7:27 • *Лгать – так **людей** обегать* #11:30 • *Мы про **людей** вечеринку сидим, а люди про нас и ночь не спят* #12:1
Δ ЛЮДЕМ (2): *Людем не верит, да сам мелет* #11:9 • *Чево сам не любишь – и **людем** не желай* #24:5 **Δ ЛЮДИ** (9): *Для щей **люди** женятца, а для мяса замуж ходят* #5:45 • *И тем **люди** не шутят* #9:5 • *Люди молотить, а мы замки колотить* #11:24 • *Люди пировать, а мы горевать* #11:22 • *Люди пьют – так честь да хвала, а мы польем – так стыд да беда* #11:13 • *Люди спать, а они жялвей искать* #11:17 • *Люди ступают –ничють ни слышать, а мы как ни ступим, так стукнем* #11:12 • *Мы про **людей** вечеринку сидим, а **люди** про нас и ночь не спят* #12:1 • *Тем **люди** не играют, от чего умирают* #18:5 **Δ ЛЮДЬМИ**: *Шутки шутить – то **людьми** замутить* #25:2
Δ ЛЮДЯМ: *Беда ходит не по лесу – по **людям*** #2:10 **Δ ЛЮДЯХ** (4): *В **людях** Ананья, а дома не найдешь* #3:25 • *В **людях** Илья, а дома свинья* #3:33 • *В **людях** ты "радуись царица", а дома "не рыдай, мене мати"* #3:15 • *На **людях** и смерть красна* #13:63 ▲ C18: Л. ... <4>

5. QUANTITATIVE FEATURES

Variants are noted in 245 of 1933 entry units of concordance in all that account for 12,67%. Ten of them have 2 variants, thus, the total variant quantity is – 254.

The analysis of distribution of appellants according to parts of speech has shown that 85% presents the three most used parts of speech:

nouns – 85 units (34,69%)
adjectives – 61 units (24,9%)
verbs – 63 units (25,71%).

Besides, the following parts of speech had the variants:

pronouns and adverbs – 14 units (5,71%)
comparative – 4 units (1,63%): БОЛЕЕ / БОЛЕ, больше / БОЛЬШИ, далее / ДАЛЕ, лучше / ЛУТЧЕ

noun – 1 unit (0,41%): двое / ДВОЯ

syntactic parts of speech – 17 units (6,94%).

Among the nouns there 3 onyms that have variants are presented: **Антип / АНТИПА** (*Антипа не липа – и луб содрав, не покрывлся*), **Федька / ФЕТКА** (*Фетка, что ретька, а хвост не таков*), **Филипп / ФИЛИП** (*Филип и в конопле не укрылся*).

In collection texts there the cases of using both lemma variants for 36 units are noted (14,69%), for example:

НОГОТЬ / НОГОДЬ (2) ← **НОГОДЬ**: *Ногодь уеяз – всей птице пропасть* #15:57 Δ **НОГОТЬ**: *Нос слокоть, а ума с ноготь* #13:126 ▲ C18: Н. ... <5>

ОБЫЧАЙ / ОБЫЧЕЙ (3) ← **ОБЫЧАЙ** (2): *Жуку нора за обычай* #7:23 • *Обычай не клетка – не переставишь* #14:7 Δ **ОБЫЧЕЙ**: *Волку зима за обычей* #3:46 ▲ C17: О. <8>

For 72 units (29,39%) both variants of the entry unit are restored, for example:

бумажка / бумашка ← **БУМАШКУ**: *Клей на бумашку, а игла на рубашку* #10:63 ▲ C18: Б. / Б. <2>

непрочный / непрошный ← **НЕПРОШНАЯ**: *Непрошная хоромина – овин* #13:25 ▲ C18: Н. / Н. <2>

For 137 lexemes (55,92%) one of the variants of the entry unit has been restored on the basis of word forms, in so doing, in all cases, besides one, the first («up-to-dated») variant has been restored, for example:

вдовый / ВДОВЕЙ ← **ВДОВЕЙ**: *На вдовей двор хотя цепку перебрось-и то ей прибыль* #13:52 ▲ C18: В. / В. ...

журавль / ЖЕРАВЛЬ (3) ← **ЖЕРАВЛЬ**: *Жеравль меж не знает, и через ступает* #7:22 Δ **ЖЕРАВЛЯМ**: *Потоп караблям, песок жеравлям* #15:56 Δ **ЖУРАВЛЯ**: *Не сули в небе журавля – дай синицу в руки* #13:17 ▲ C18: Ж. / Ж. ... <2>

An exception is the lemma *изумен*, the contemporary form of which is stated in the texts of CPG (*Каков изумен, таковы и братья; Убог монастырь – сам изумен воду возит*), and the second variant – *ыгумен* – has been restored on the basis of the word form *ыгумнах* (*Не всем чернцам в ыгумнах быть*).

6. CONCLUSION

In the course of our research it has been proved that the problem of variation is one of the principal problems in analyzing the Russian proverbs corpus of the 18th century.

Analysis of all the words having entry units variations allows to supplement the articles of «The Dictionary of the Russian Dictionary of the 18th century» in the way of reflection of lexical units variation.

Involvement of quantitative data (overall quantity of variants, their part of speech distribution and so on) enlarges the idea of occurrence and nature of usage of either variants.

The practical part of the article, where the systematized list of alternants with their use is presented, clearly demonstrates the variety of variants in corpus.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The author assert that the represented data do not contain the conflict of interests.

COMMENDATIONS

The work was performed in terms of implementation «The plan of activities on realization of the Program of competitive recovery FGAOU VPO « K(P) FU» among the leading world scientific-educational centers for 2013 – 2020».

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